

Chicago Mission

The holidays are here with all their joys and pleasures. The Grip still holds sway, and many are sick. I wonder if the joys of the more fortunate, would over balance the disappointments of the poor? Our little mission has done its part, "what we could" with the little oil at our disposal. Many who attended the exercises at various places celebrating Christmas, tell us that the best service they attended was held in the Mission on Christmas eve. We gave out over a hundred treats to the children, and parents, and all were happy. We had a good suggestive program, which was well rendered by the children, and all enjoyed it very much. We made an effort to remember all the poor, and the sick within our reach. Our house was crowded.

I wish to thank all those who have remembered us with help of every sort for the poor. Their liberality is fruitful of good results in the lives of those who received help. We have to acknowledge a barrel of clothing from Ashland, O; a box of clothing and other needful things from Bethlehem, Pa. Lanark, Ill., remembered us also with a box of nice things. All are being used in the fear of the Lord. But still there is a need of money with which to keep our work going.

I have received many encouraging letters from friends, and in some of them are expressed in a very practical way their sympathy and co operation in our mission work. This will be our last communication to our beloved paper for the year 1900. The next will be in the beginning of the 20th century. Let us begin it with an offering for the work of him whose birth divides the dispensations, and marks the ending of the old, and the beginning of the new.

A friend recently wrote me, saying "you never seem to complain;" true. What good would it do? Would complaints cheer others? Would complaints commend us to, others? Would it commend the grace of God in whom we trust to others? What good are complaints any way? only to make others feel bad. If I had all the complaints in the world stored in the grain elevators of Chicago, I could not sell them for enough to pay our gas bill for one month. It is bad business. Turn those historical moments in to prayer and useful effort. I visit so many poor and needy almost every day, and yet I do not hear any more complaints from that class than from the rich. The more wealthy of the city do far more complaining and grumbling than do the poor, and those who just make a fair living. Murmuring is from satan. According to the Bible it is a sin. Isreal was doing nicely in their march toward the promised land, till they began murmuring, then they fell. "Murmur not."

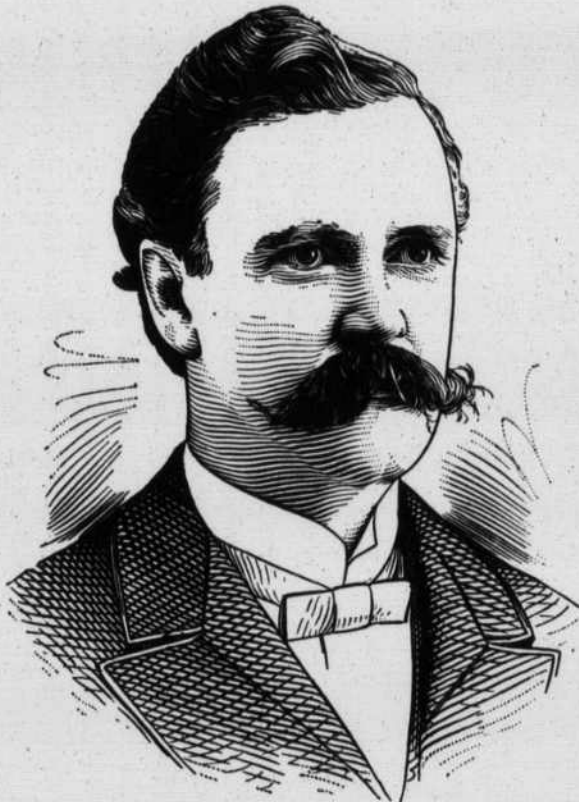
I heard a rich man say this week, "the banks are full of money, and every thing is stagnated." A wise man would think within himself; "you fool, why do you keep your money locked up there?" Praise the Lord for happy hearts and happy faces, whose owners are full of the grace of God.

Interest in the work is increasing, and some new faces appear in our Sunday school almost every Sunday. The children are a great field for Gospel seed sowing. Pray for us.

J. O. TALLEY.

From the National Capital

Brother J. F. Koontz of Conemaugh, Pa., was us last Sunday (Dec. 23) and preached for us both morning and evening. His visit and sermons were appreciated by all and we were sorry he could not remain longer. He was on his way home from New Jersey where he had been assisting Brother Smith in a series of meetings.



W. M. LYON

Christmas Exercises. They were held on the evening of Christmas day; large attendance; auditorium almost filled; excellent program and admirably rendered. We feel very thankful for the efficient service of our worthy superintendent, brother H. R. Dooley, and also for the excellent work done by the other officials of the school including the teachers. Many strangers were present and all seemed highly pleased in every way and especially with the character of the exercises. In some schools such exercises are sometimes made rather a reproach by the introduction of certain things not in keeping with that high spiritual standard which should characterize all such work. I believe none would have felt ashamed to have had Jesus come in during the entertainment. May that ever be our only standard! We also wish to return thanks to brother Chas. Haring of Oakton, Va., for the barrel of potatoes; to brother E. B. Shaver and several of his flock, of Maurertown, Va., for the box of good things. They served a good purpose and were appreciated very much.

Several have lately sent financial help, which was much needed at this time, an account of which will be duly acknowledged in my regular report thru Brother Cassel. For all of this I return thanks. Would like to speak of other things but have not time at present. Pray for us.

W. M. LYON.

Memoir

Mrs. Roger Darling

It is with much sorrow we record the death of sister Rosa Belle Darling, wife of Roger E. Darling, pastor of the First Brethren church of Pittsburg which occurred on the 20th of December. Sister Darling had been sick five weeks with typhoid fever and for two weeks was in a very critical condition. From Sunday until her death on Thursday she was kept alive by the use of oxygen and was under the care of professional nurses while the husband, parents and brothers of Sister Darling were bending every energy to save their loved one. A slight turn for the better gave hopes that grew to almost assurance that she would live but the change came between two and three A. M. Thursday and in a few moments she was gone.

Sister Darling the daughter of elder R. Z. and sister Mary Replogle was born in New Enterprise, Pa., Dec. 27, 1878. She came to Johnstown with her parents in 1885, and united with the Brethren church March 1, 1893, during a meeting held by brother J. Allen Miller under brother J. H. Knepper's pastorate. On January 20, 1898, she was married to Roger E. Darling who was then pastor of the Moxham and Rosedale Brethren churches. That spring they removed to Pittsburg Brother Darling having been called to the pastorate of the First Brethren church there. On the week of her death they were to have moved into the new parsonage the Pittsburg church had erected. Funeral services were held in their home, 5335 Dearborn St., on the evening of the 20th by elders Henry Wise and D. J. Bole and on Friday the remains were brought to the home of her parents on Westmont where they were surrounded by flowers, the beautiful tributes of her many friends. Funeral services were conducted by the writer assisted by elders Alvin Byers and J. L. Bowman. The body was placed at rest in the beautiful Grand View cemetery and with sad hearts the family turn back to the world without the presence of this noble, earnest Christian young woman.

Sister Darling was a Christian worker of great and marked usefulness, and her loss will be keenly felt by the husband and the church of Pittsburg.

E. E. HASKINS.

Among the Churches



J. H. KNEPPER

The Meyersdale, Pa., Brethren Church

The Brethren church at Meyersdale, Pa., was one of the first congregations formed under the re-organization November of 1881 and erected the first house of worship in the brotherhood. This congregation was also one of the pioneers in organizing a Sunday-school that has been kept green to